

For Public Notice via Internet

**REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978*
(REFERRAL NUMBER 2024-R06)**

Proponent:

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)

Project:

Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail (the Project)

Description:

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) are proposing a new 75-kilometre walking trail connecting coastal towns from Fairhaven to Grey River. Sections of new trail will connect with existing walking and management vehicle tracks to form a continuous walking trail network and would also include upgraded trail heads, upgraded and new carparks, a new camp, three new suspension bridges, new lookouts and crossings of the Great Ocean Road.

Decision

The Minister for Planning has decided that an environment effects statement (EES) is not required for the Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail Project, as described in the referral accepted on 23 September 2024.

Reasons

- The project has the potential for adverse effects however they are unlikely to be complex and uncertainties can be readily investigated through existing statutory requirements and approvals including the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and *Heritage Act 2017*.
- Residual effects on other environmental values related to construction such as noise, air quality and water are expected to temporary, unlikely to be significant and would be readily managed through existing statutory requirements and available industry standards.

Date 28/01/2025